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#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Henricus J.A. Stuyt		) )
Serial No.:	ТВА	Examiner: ) Art Unit:
Filed:	Herewith	
Title: MANI	PULATOR	)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, D.C. 20231

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

## In the Specification:

Before the first sentence in the specification, please add the following sentence:

--This application is a continuation of prior application No. PCT/NL99/00670, filed October 29, 1999; which claims priority from Dutch Patent Application No. NL 1010446, filed November 2, 1998.--

### In the claims:

Please delete claims 1-18 without prejudice to the filing of any appropriate continuation application.